

Message Text

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ORIGIN L-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-05 ERDA-05 SAJ-01 OES-03 /090 R

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ACDA - COL.STAPLES

DOD - MAJ. NAFZINGER

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN PRIORITY

USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG PRIORITY

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 265521

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ICRC, PARM

SUBJECT: LAWS OF WAR - WEAPONS LIAISON GROUP

1. DURING LAST MEETING OF WEAPONS LIAISON GROUP (EC-9
PLUS U.S., CANADA AND AUSTRALIA) IN GENEVA IN SEPTEMBER,
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U.S. OFFERED TO ACT AS HOST FOR FURTHER SESSION IN GENEVA

ON DECEMBER 3-5. PURPOSE OF THAT SESSION WILL BE TO FURTHER COORDINATE WESTERN POSITIONS ON CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS ISSUES TO BE DISCUSSED IN LUGANO CONFERENCE OF GOVERNMENT EXPERTS IN JANUARY-FEBRUARY 1976.

2. HOWEVER, DELEGATION HEADS OF U.K. (TAYLOR) AND ITALY (DEBERNARDO), WHO ARE PRESENTLY IN NEW YORK WORKING ON UNGA 1ST COMMITTEE, HAVE REQUESTED THAT WE POSTPONE SESSION UNTIL WEEK OF DECEMBER 8 TO AVOID OVERLAP WITH 1ST COMMITTEE (WHICH WILL CONTINUE UNTIL DECEMBER 6) AND THEREBY FACILITATE THEIR ATTENDANCE. WHILE WE WOULD HAVE PREFERRED FOR ADMINISTRATIVE REASONS, TO STICK WITH ORIGINAL DATES, WE WOULD BE PREPARED TO ACCEDE TO UK/ITALY REQUEST IF IT DOES NOT INCONVENIENCE OTHER PARTICIPANTS.

3. FOR EMBASSIES: PLEASE CONTACT OFFICIALS IN YOUR CAPITALS WHO ARE INVOLVED IN WORK OF WEAPONS LIAISON GROUP AND

RELATE THE ABOVE INFORMATION TO THEM. ADVISE THEM THAT USG WOULD CONSIDER RESCHEDULING NEXT SESSION FOR DECEMBER 10-12 IN GENEVA IF THIS PROVES GENERALLY ACCEPTABLE, AND REQUEST THEIR RESPONSE. IN VIEW OF SHORT TIME REMAINING, WE WOULD APPRECIATE RESPONSE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. WE HOPE TO ADVISE ALL PARTICIPANTS OF DECISION ON SCHEDULE BY NOVEMBER 17.

4. FOR LONDON: IN ADDITION TO THE ABOVE, PLEASE ASK FREELAND OR EATON WHETHER U.K. INTENDS TO CIRCULATE REVISED VERSION OF ITS MINES PROPOSAL PRIOR TO DECEMBER SESSION. WE WOULD APPRECIATE THE OPPORTUNITY TO SEE ANY SUCH REVISION AT THE EARLIEST CONVENIENT TIME.

5. FOR GENEVA: PLEASE ADVISE WHETHER MISSION CAN PROVIDE SUITABLE CONFERENCE ROOM FOR APPROXIMATELY 30 PARTICIPANTS ON DECEMBER 10-12, RATHER THAN DECEMBER 3-5 AS U.S. REPS TO SEPTEMBER MEETING SUGGESTED TO MISSION CONFERENCE OFFICER.

6. FOR NEW YORK: PLEASE ADVISE APPROPRIATE 1ST COMMITTEE PARTICIPANTS, INCLUDING TAYLOR, DIBERNARDO AND ROWE, OF
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ABOVE APPROACHES, AND SUGGEST THEY MAY WISH TO CONTACT THEIR CAPITALS TO AVOID ANY CONFUSION. KISSINGER

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